

# Debutantes in Distress!

WHAT will be next in the way of novelties for debutante balls? When the Bradley-Martins gave their famous function a few years ago society thought the limit of ingenuity had been reached. Now comes two Philadelphia families who completely outdo it, and set a

Who Can Suggest,  
Regardless of Expense,  
More Brilliant  
Novelties for Parties  
Than Tropical  
Butterflies, Fishponds,  
Sylvan Scenes, and  
Choruses of Song Birds?

tion of a French garden of the Louis XVI period, and all who saw it declared it the most beautiful ever seen in this country.

**Five Hundred Butterflies Loosed.**  
The greatest surprise and novelty was reserved until all of the guests had assembled and merry-making was at its height, and then it came with the suddenness of a thunderbolt. Its like had never before been seen. While the beautiful, handsomely gowned women



MISS DOROTHY RANDOLPH.

new standard for the elect to aspire to.

Social leaders now think nothing of spending \$100,000 or more that a debutante daughter shall be introduced to "their set" in a unique and distinctive way.

To accomplish this nowadays one must enlist the services of birds, insects, animals, rarest of flowers, and plants. Heretofore New York was the leader in all new fashions, but now Gotham is quietly retiring to a back seat, while Philadelphia, Boston, and Chicago are coming to the front in a way to startle all society.

#### Acme of Five Years Ago.

Time was when the ballroom, fresh from the decorators' hands, converted into a veritable conservatory of flowers and evergreens, was the acme of perfection, it was the thing dreamed of by the wealthy for their budding daughters. But now they are passé, and easily within the reach of the plebeians.

Note the ballroom must truly be fairyland. The rarest of roses, vines, and evergreens must be skillfully manipulated by the very best of landscape architects, and the room must swarm with rare butterflies, sweet-voiced canaries, and cute little animals that are harmless and pretty. This is the latest that has been perpetrated, and, coming from Philadelphia, New York's "100" gapes in wide-mouthed wonder.

#### Debut of Miss Paul.

The first function to electrify the social world was the coming

of a party given for Miss Mary Astor Paul by her father, James W. Paul, Jr., a member of the Drexel firm. Money was spent with a lavish hand, with a result that the debutante ball cost him just \$100,000; but that was nothing to him, so long as his daughter had

the finest debut ever accorded a young American girl. She had it.

About the largest item of expense was the roses. For decorating the room more than 8,000

American Beauty roses were used. These with the other flowers used brought the florist's bill to a total of \$35,000. The large hall was transformed into a reproduc-

MISS MARY ASTOR PAUL.

and distinguished men were reveling in this fairyland, from some unknown source 500 gorgeous butterflies were turned loose in the room to flit where and when they pleased.

The insects had been gathered from nearly every corner of the globe, and included the rarest and

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